

Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 000500-195

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

Eva SIMMONS et al.

Application No.: 09/380,211

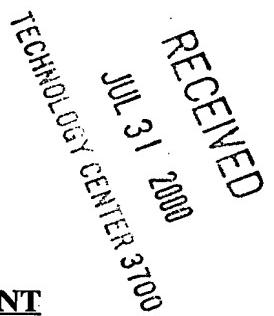
Filed: November 8, 1999

For: AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE  
INCORPORATING LIQUID  
BARRIERS WITH SEALING  
COATING



Group Art Unit: 3735

Examiner: Unassigned



**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, submitted herewith is a translation of an Official Action issued in a corresponding Taiwanese application. EP 0 745 367, previously submitted in an earlier Information Disclosure Statement corresponds to Taiwanese Patent Publication No. 300849, cited in the Taiwanese Official Action.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: William C. Rowland  
William C. Rowland  
Registration No. 30,888

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620  
Date: July 28, 2000



(ENGLISH TRANSLATION)

FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Date of Receipt: December 18, 1998

1. APPLICATION NO.: 87102700
2. TITLE : An absorbent article incorporating liquid barriers with sealing coating
3. APPLICANT: SCA Molnlycke AB  
ADDRESS: Sweden
4. PATENT ATTORNEY: Patrick I. C. Yun/William W. L. Chen  
ADDRESS: Taipei
5. FILING DATE: February 25, 1998
6. PRIORITY: none
7. CONTENTS OF ACTION:

## SUBJECT

The invention in this application shall not be granted an Invention Patent on the basis of Articles 20.2 of the Patent Law.

## REASONS

1. The invention in this application entitled, "An absorbent article incorporating liquid barriers with sealing coating," relates to an absorbent article comprising a liquid-impermeable sheet, a liquid-permeable sheet, an absorbent body and a longitudinal elastic liquid barrier formed of a liquid-impervious material.
2. This invention is characterized in that the free edge of at least one liquid barrier on each side of the longitudinal center line of the absorbent body is treated with a non-adhesive sealing medium such as ointment of fat or oil which, in use, at least partly fills out any through-penetrating pore formed between the free edge of the liquid barrier and the abutment surface on the wearer, and which, when the article is donned, smears said abutment surface and thereby increases the wetting angle of the liquid to the skin. It is noted that such a feature has been disclosed in the surface which provides a hydrophilic leakage barrier cuff structure recited in the claims of Taiwanese patent publication no. 300849 (see attached cited reference). Therefore, this invention utilizes technology or knowledge in existence prior to its filing and can be easily achieved by a person skilled in the art. This invention is devoid of inventive step and does not satisfy the requirements of an Invention Patent.

In view of the aforesaid, this invention does not meet the statutory patent requirements according to Article 20.2 of the Patent Law and shall not be granted an Invention Patent.

Sealed By

Ming-Pang Chen  
Director

NOTE: If dissatisfied with this Office Action, the Applicant may file a request for reexamination along with a Response within thirty (30) days of the day following the date of receipt of this Office Action.

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying form PTO-1449 for the above-identified patent application.

- No additional fee for submission of an IDS is required.
- The fee of \$240.00 (126) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is also enclosed.
- A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is also enclosed.
- A certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement, and the petition fee of \$130.00 (122) as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) are also enclosed.

Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800 for the fee due.

The amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.

Information Disclosure Statement Transmittal Letter  
Application No. 09/380,211  
Attorney's Docket No. 000500-195  
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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